
FAQ: LASER SKIN PEEL

What is PROFILE?

Profile is a combination of two lasers and sets a new standard for laser skin peels, allowing your physician to precisely vary the depth and the effect of your laser peel. Your treatment will be tailored to match your skin condition and desired result.

What is laser skin resurfacing?

Laser skin resurfacing is one of the leading cosmetic procedures in the United States. The process utilizes a laser to minimize the appearance of lines and wrinkles, as well as improve the overall texture of the skin.

How does laser skin resurfacing work?

Lasers work by emitting a specialized light that passes through the skin and is preferentially absorbed by water in the damaged collagen of your skin. This action allows the laser light to ablate (evaporate) very fine layers of skin, diminishing the look of the wrinkle and other unwanted textures. The older, wrinkled collagen in your skin is re modeled into newer skin: as new cells form in the healing process, the skin becomes smoother and softer. Several lasers and light sources are available today for skin resurfacing.

Why choose laser skin resurfacing?

Laser skin resurfacing offers patients many benefits. The procedure is truly "incisionless," provides consistent results, and offers the surgeon precise control. Its faster recovery time means that it can also delay or eliminate the need for the more invasive face-lift surgery.

What conditions can be treated with PROFILE?

Wrinkles	Epidermal Nevi
Acne Scars	Solar lentiginos
Actinic Keratoses	Hypertrophic Scars
Syringoma	Surgical Scars

What will the PROFILE laser do?

Your physician will use Profile to remove thin layers of your skin's surface, which will be replaced by younger skin growth. Only Profile has the ability to provide a treatment that is optimized to your skin condition. Your wrinkles will soften and become less noticeable, some will disappear; and pigmented lesions will greatly improve.

What areas can be treated?

All skin areas can be treated. Popular areas are the face, neck, chest and hands. Discuss your needs with your physician.

How long will I take to recover?

Your healing time will depend upon your actual treatment depth, and you may experience erythema (redness) which may last several weeks. Healing time does vary among individuals. Your physician can answer question about temporary changes to your skin color and how they may be camouflaged. How does it work?

What should I expect after treatment?

Some redness and slight swelling may be present in the area that has been treated, however, this should subside within a few hours. Your skin will have a pink or red color that will resolve over time. You will need to avoid direct sun exposure, or use a sun block of at least SPF 15 when outdoors.

Will it be uncomfortable?

The amount of discomfort varies from patient to patient. Your physician will discuss your anesthesia options to properly manage any discomfort from the treatment.

Is there a risk?

Following the correct aftercare procedures prescribed by your physician will reduce the risk of infection. You will return to your physician for follow-up visits to ensure excellent healing.

What will happen during the procedure?

Your physician will administer anesthesia after discussing the options with you. Your eyes will be protected with safety shields or glasses.

Profile's laser beam will be delivered through a computer controlled device that automatically scans the area of your skin being treated. You may hear a snapping or popping noise as the laser beam gently removes the outer skin cells.

Your procedure may take a few minutes to half an hour depending on the size of the area to be treated and the depth of your peel.

What aftercare will I need?

It is important to follow your physician's instructions. You will be given some skin care products and instructions on how to use them. This will minimize your risk for infection and ensure the shortest healing time. The top layer of your skin will re-grow and be covered with makeup in about one week.

Your new skin will be very sensitive to ultra-violet light and you must avoid sun exposure until fully healed. You need to cover your skin, wear a hat and use a good sun screen if you have to go outdoors.

How long will it take me to heal? What are the side effects?

Most patients enjoy a short recovery time after laser resurfacing, which lasts anywhere from less than a week for lighter resurfacing procedures, to a bit more than a week for deeper procedures. You will be asked to keep the area moist. The initial redness after the procedure will fade over a period of time. However, camouflage makeup may be used to cover the redness.

As for side effects, as with any surgical procedure, there are risks associated with laser skin resurfacing. Your doctor will review with you in detail any risks involved in the procedure.

Is the procedure painful?

You will be given either a topical or local anesthetic during the procedure. Sedation can also be provided. Most patients describe the post-procedure feeling as a bad sunburn; this feeling will subside in a few days. Cold compresses will also help subdue the discomfort.

How soon will I see results?

Because your skin will heal over a period of several weeks, you may not see the final results until then. As your skin heals, and as new collagen regenerates and fills in the lines and wrinkles, your results will continue to improve. Results will continue to improve for months.



